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38th Parallel

A publication to remember, honor and thank the Korean War Veterans



Tech. Sgt. Michael Dorsey

Korean War veteran Coast Guard Senior Chief Boatswain's Mate Ed Burke, plants the wreath at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Nov. 12, during the committee's Veterans Day ceremony. The ceremony began at 11 a.m., the same time the World War I Armistice was signed on Nov. 11, 1918, to begin Armistice Day — better known as Veterans Day.

United presence adds pride to Veterans Day ceremony

When the Department of Defense honored veterans at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Nov. 12 on the Mall in Washington, D.C., two women wearing pearl-colored garrison caps trimmed in gold, stood in the bright sun and brisk wind in anticipation of the coming events.

"What made it special was seeing the representatives of the different embassies and the service groups that came out in support," said Aseneth Mays Blackwell. "You could see everyone out here on one accord. You could feel the spirit and letting the guys know that whether you died in Korea or served in Korea that you are not forgotten. That's why I had to be out

here no matter what."

Blackwell, the national president of the Gold Star Wives of America, lost her husband in Vietnam.

"It (the era) doesn't matter," Blackwell said of her husband. "I wanted to show them that yes, we do recognize them."

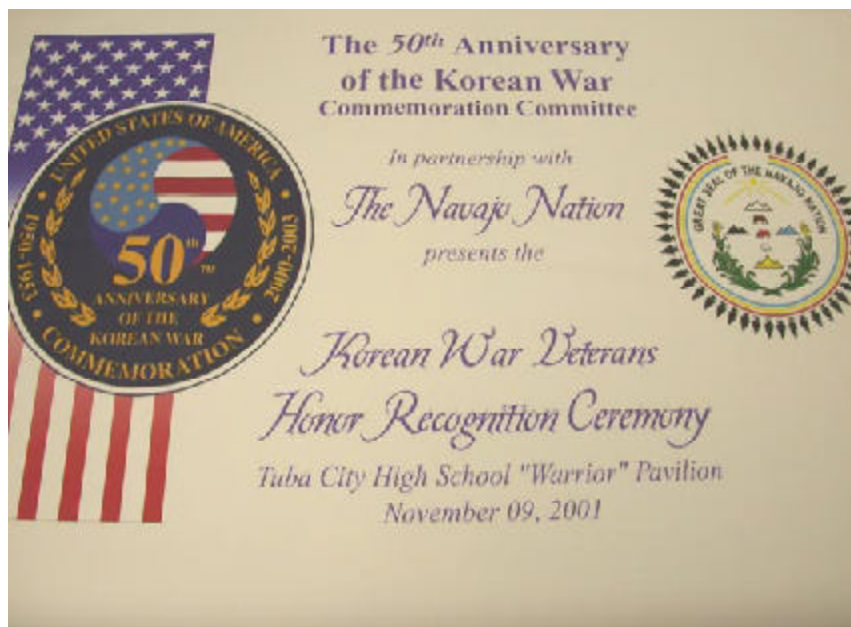
The ceremony, hosted by the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee included several other nations. Belgium, France, Australia, Thailand, Sweden, Turkey, Greece, England and South Korea all paid their respects to those who gave their lives and those who live to talk about their fight for freedom 50 years

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Remembering American Indian Heritage...



Retired Air Force Maj. Gen. Nels Running, committee executive director, traveled to Arizona to honor one of its commemoration partners on Veterans Day weekend.



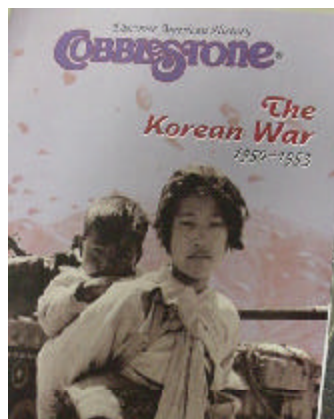
In Memory

Lt. Col. (Ret.) USA Roger D. King — Oct. 3, 1943 — Oct. 9, 2001

Lt. Col. King passed away following a six-month battle with lung cancer. He

served as the committee's Commemoration Partner director from August 1988 to August 2000. Prior to his assignment on the Korean War Commemoration Committee, King served as operations officer for the

World War II Commemoration Committee. Roger will be fondly remembered by all of us who knew him as full of life and committed to thanking and honoring the veterans he so loved.



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Veterans Day from Page 1

ago. Many of the veterans in attendance are staunch supporters who come to many of the ceremonies here. The presence of Gold Star Wives reflects the same spirit shown by the representatives of countries that fought under the United Nations banner who attended the wreath laying ceremony.

Elisabeth Foley did lose her husband in the Korean War. For her, Veterans Day carries personal meaning. "We have to remember those who fought for freedom," Foley said. "I have always had an interest in the war."

Her husband back then was Raymond C. Denchfield who was with the 7th Division, 32nd Regiment and fought at the Chosin Reservoir.

"I have always felt very close to what happened in Korea. I was very young at the time. I followed all the news

reports. I have many of his letters and all sorts of things," said Foley. Originally from Czechoslovakia, Foley was in Japan when the war broke out.

"For a while I didn't know where my husband was when he left Japan," she said.

Alone with a child and with another on the way, Foley then left for Denver, Colo., her husband's home state. It was there that Foley learned about her husband. For four years he was listed as missing. Since then she has remarried, but hasn't forgotten about Denchfield or the war.

"I have always kept it alive, Foley said. My son from my second marriage is more informed about the war than I am. He reads a lot of the books and studied the Korean War., she added.

Remains recovered in North Korea

Remains believed to be those of eight American soldiers, missing in action from the Korean War, were repatriated in formal ceremonies on Nov. 9. This repatriation marks the end of this year's operations.

The remains will be flown on a U.S. Air Force aircraft from Pyongyang, North Korea, under escort of a uniformed U.S. honor guard to Yokota Air Base, Japan, where a United Nations Command repatriation ceremony will be held.

Operating near the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea, a joint team recovered five remains believed to be those of U.S. Army soldiers from the 7th Infantry Division who fought against Chinese forces Nov.-Dec. 1950. Approximately 1,000 MIAs are estimated to have been lost in battles of the Chosin campaign.

Additionally, a second team recovered three sets of remains in Unsan and Kujang counties and along the Chong Chon River, about 60 miles north of Pyongyang. The area was the site of battles between Communist forces and

the U.S. Army's 1st Cavalry Division, and 2nd and 25th Infantry Divisions in November 1950. The Defense Department's POW/Missing Personnel Office negotiated an agreement with the North Koreans last year that led to the scheduling of this year's operations.

The 28-person U.S. teams are composed primarily of specialists from the Army's Central Identification Laboratory Hawaii.

This year's schedule of operations in North Korea was the largest since they began five years ago, with 10 individual operations conducted near the Chosin Reservoir, as well as in the Unsan, Kujang and Kaechon City areas.

Twenty-seven individual joint operations have been conducted since 1996 in North Korea, recovering 152 sets of remains believed to be those of U.S. soldiers. Ten have been positively identified and returned to their families for burial with full military honors. Another 12 are in the final stages of the forensic identification process. (*American Forces Information Service*)

Army unit honors veterans at 100th annual reunion

The 29th Infantry Regiment had a four-day reunion at Fort Benning, Ga., that included multi-media presentations and demonstrations and a memorial ceremony at the post cemetery. From Sept. 26-29, more than 115 veterans and spouses attended the reunion. Several of the veterans wore the Combat Infantryman's Badge with two stars, signifying combat service in World War II, Vietnam and Korea.

The 29th IR served in Korea in 1952 where at the Battle of Nam River, the 2nd Battalion earned the Presidential Unit Citation.

The reunion ended with a formal banquet where veterans Edward F. Balbi and Jesus Rodriguez Sr., received the Korean War Service Medal. Balbi also received the National Infantry Association, Order of Saint Maurice for leading the 29th IR out of an ambush.

The 29th IR received a memorial trophy commemorating the sacrifices of the regiment's 3rd Battalion.

The regiment was formed at Fort Sheridan, Ill., in 1901. (*Sgt. Ryan C. Black from the 29th IR contributed to this article*)

This Date in History

Nov. 7, 1950: An infantry battalion from Thailand joined the UN forces in Korea. At their peak in 1952, more than 2,000 Thai soldiers were serving in Korea. The Thai Battalion, attached to the 2nd Infantry Division, participated in the action on Pork Chop Hill.

Nov. 7, 1950: Advance elements of the Princess Patricia Canadian Light Infantry (PPCLI) arrive to join the UN forces in Korea. Originally attached to the British 27th Commonwealth Brigade, Canadian ground forces in Korea eventually reached a strength of more than 6,146 and formed the three-battalion 25th Infantry Brigade of the 1st British Commonwealth Division

Nov. 5, 1950: General MacArthur ordered a heavy air offensive over North Korea, including the Yalu River bridges at Sinuiju. This order was in violation of the Joint Chiefs of Staff directive forbidding bombing within five miles of the Yalu River.

The 452nd Bombardment Wing (Light) sent its B-26s on their first combat mission. The 452nd was the first all-reserve Air Force unit to enter combat in Korea.

Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud, E Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, became the Army's 20th Medal of Honor recipient.

Nov. 5-17, 1950: The 3rd Infantry Division, joined by the 65th Infantry Regiment already in Korea, landed at Wonsan on the East Coast.

Nov. 2-7, 1950: After offering stiff resistance to troops of the 7th Marines south of the Chosin (Changjin) Reservoir, the Chinese 124th Division withdrew into the mountains.

Departments of Defense, Interior honor veterans at memorial

When the opening ceremony began a year ago for the three-year commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, Gilbert Lyons was there.

As a Ranger for the National Park Service, Lyons was on duty at the Korean War Veterans Memorial nearby. A soldier who fought with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea, the Washington, D.C. native, gave newspaper and television reporters insight on his combat experience there and his dedicated service to the federal government. He was famous. However, his flicker of fame that day didn't compare to what he received on Nov. 8; one he will cherish for the rest of his life.

"This is more personal," said Lyons after Maj. Gen. Jin Ha Hwang, Republic of Korea Defense Attache, pinned the Korean War Service Medal he earned 50 years ago on his Park Service uniform. "We lost a lot people over there and I lost a lot of good friends."

Lyons was one of 17 people who received medals during a wreath laying



Tech. Sgt. Michael Dorsey
Gale Norton, Department of the Interior Secretary, pins the commemoration lapel pin on Park Service Ranger Gilbert Lyons.

ceremony at the memorial as the Department of the Interior, in conjunction with the Korean War Commemoration Committee, honored its Korean War veterans. In addition to the medal, Lyons and the other veterans received a certificate of appreciation from the Republic of Korea and a lapel pin presented to them by Secretary of Interior Gale Norton.

"As Secretary of Interior, it is my highest honor to oversee sacred ground, such as the battlefield of Gettysburg, and hallowed places of honor, such as the USS Arizona and this memorial to Korean War veterans," said Norton, who has an uncle who served in the Korean War. "Our national parks and memorials celebrate the events, the places, and the people who've made America a bright light shining on a hill. We are here to recognize the bravery of U.S. Korean War veterans — and all servicemen and women who place themselves in harm's way to defend our nation."

Before placing the wreath at the memorial's flagpole, Norton thanked the

Department of Defense 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee for helping to organize the event and acknowledging Korean War veterans who served with "the Interior family." More than 100 veterans were recognized.

For Diego Cantu, receiving his medal was enough recognition.

"This was much more than I thought it would be," said Cantu, a veteran of the 35th Infantry Regiment who lives in Annapolis, Md. "I feel honored just to get an invitation to come here."

The interior department has eight bureaus in its cabinet to include the National Park Service. The Korean War Veterans Memorial is one of 300 areas the National Park Service administers. The service was created in 1916.

The National Park System encompasses approximately 83.6 million acres, of which more than 4.3 million acres remain in private ownership. More than 250 million people visit America's national parks each year.



Tech. Sgt. Michael Dorsey

Diego Cantu said he was pleased to get an invitation. Receiving his medal was something extra.

Commemoration Partners don't wait for Veterans Day to salute its heroes

For two commemoration partner communities, Veterans Day didn't come soon enough.

In Ripley County, Ind., 116 recipients received the Republic of Korea Korean War Service Medal during its June 23 "Veterans Day" inside Tyson School Auditorium. More than 700 people attended the event.

"In small towns such as this, it means so much to them," said John Ward, who heads the county's commemorative committee. As the mastermind behind the event, Ward started, coordinated and hosted the ceremony that involved the Versailles American Legion, area high school students, and the only living Medal of Honor recipient from Indiana. He opened the ceremony by telling the veterans their day was a history-making one. According to Ward, the event was largest gathering of Korean War veterans and their families ever for Ripley County.

Ward knows the importance of remembering veterans who served their nation and wants to ensure that younger generations never forget how the veterans served their country. Before retiring as principal of the high school in the Jackson Central Delaware township, Ward pushed for veterans to visit schools and share their experiences with students from the four high schools in the area. On Veterans Day, Ward said the program he began was the major focus in observance of the holiday.

"At first they wanted to honor the vets by letting kids go home, but I fought that," Ward said. "They don't learn a thing going home."

The Veterans Day Parade in Granite Falls, N.C., featured 1,000 veterans and 50 units, and recognized the families of three of its Korean War veterans who died serving their country — Billy Lefevers, Own Hollar, and Joseph Smith. For the residents of the town, July 6 is the

date to remember. First Lt. Joseph Searl Smith was assigned to the 19th Infantry when the 3rd Battalion was activated on Sept. 1, 1950. Wounded in February 1951, the platoon and company commander returned to the front lines where he died on April 26, 1951, the day after his 31st birthday. As a result, the town declared July 6 as Joseph Searl Smith Day in his honor. An estimated 500 people attended the ceremony.



First Lt. Joseph Searl Smith was honored during the Veterans Day ceremony in Granite Falls, N.C.

Veterans Affairs unveils plans for museum

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14, 2001 — Plans for a National Veterans Museum were unveiled Nov. 8 at a reception here hosted by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"Our nation's veterans have made tremendous contributions to our country and its history," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony J. Principi. "This new museum will tell that story to generations of Americans, both born and not yet born."

The National Veterans Museum, to be located at VA headquarters at 810 Vermont Ave. N.W., in Washington, will tell a story of homecoming — the universal experience shared by all soldiers as they return to family, friends and community. Exhibits will discuss the impact on U.S. society of such events as the Bonus Army of 1932 and the GI Bill of 1944.

Principi also plans to link the museum with the capital's other veterans memorials, including the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, the Women in Military Service to America Memorial, and the World War II Memorial now under construction.

No timetable has been set for construction or completion of the museum. *(From VA reports)*

Leathernecks pass Korean War test

Shortly before dawn on June 25, 1950, seven infantry divisions and one armored division of the North Korean People's Army crossed the 38th Parallel into South Korea. Quickly brushing aside resistance, the North Korean juggernaut captured the South Korean capital city of Seoul within three days.

The Security Council of the United Nations quickly declared the North Korean attack a breach of world peace, and requested member nations to aid the Republic of Korea in driving back the hostile force. On June 29, President Harry S. Truman authorized the sending of U.S. forces to the area.

A request for the immediate employment of Marines came on July 2 from Gen. Douglas MacArthur, the Commander-in-Chief, Far East. Within five days of General MacArthur's request, the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, with its major elements built around the 5th Marines and Marine Aircraft Group 33, had been formed at Camp Pendleton, California. On July 12, the 6,534-man brigade sailed from San Diego, Calif., to answer their nation's call for help.

For the next three years, the performance of the 1st Marine Division

and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in helping to stem the tide of communist aggression in Korea was nothing less than outstanding. In addition to their specialty of amphibious operations, Marines were called upon to fight alongside the Army in land campaigns.

Growth

The Marine Corps emerged from the Korean War with the highest sustained peacetime strength in its history. The suddenness of the war, and General MacArthur's immediate request for Marines, had emphasized the importance of maintaining the Corps as a ready striking force.

Aviation

Marine aviation activities in Korea were first in support of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade in the Pusan perimeter, and next with the Inchon landing by the 1st Marine Division. In both instances, squadrons of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing gave effective close air-support from carriers and later from Kimpo Airfield.

Following the collapse of North Korean resistance in early October 1950, Marines moved to the seaport town of Wonsan. During the latter part of November and early December 1950, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps aircraft supplied the division during its breakout from the Chosin Reservoir. During these operations, repeated airdrops were made and more than 5,000 casualties were evacuated. In addition, Marine and Navy aircraft provided outstanding close-air support, which was vital for the withdrawal from the reservoir.

Between August 1950 and July 27,



National Archives

Marines endured many challenges including harsh conditions at the Chosin Reservoir.

1953, units of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing flew more than 118,000 sorties, of which more than 39,500 were close-air support missions. During the same period, Marine helicopter squadrons evacuated almost 10,000 personnel.

Reserves

In 1950, the Korean War saw the Marine Corps expand from 75,000 regulars to a force of 261,000 Marines by the end of the conflict in 1953, most of whom were Reserves. Of the Marines participating in the Inchon invasion, 17 percent were reservists. By June 1951, the proportion of reservists in Marine Corps units in Korea had increased to nearly 50 percent, and during the war, 48 percent of all 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Combat sorties were flown by Marine reservists. Between July 1950 and June 1953, approximately 122,000 reservists, both recruits and veterans, saw active duty in Korea.

Awards

Forty-two Marines had been awarded the Nation's highest military award, the Medal of Honor; 26 of these awards were posthumous. In addition, 221 Navy Crosses, and more than 1,500 Silver Stars were awarded to Marines. *(Courtesy USMC History and Museums Division)*



(DoD photo)

Two North Korean boys, who were serving with the North Korean Communist forces, are interrogated by a U.S. Soldier shortly after their capture.



Tech. Sgt. Michael Dorsey

Army Gen. Lee, Nam Shin, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Republic of Korea, places a wreath at the Korean War Veterans Memorial on Nov. 15. Shin tells veterans about his family after placing the wreath.

19 Iron Men

Six million Korean vets hearts beat
In the Iron Men at the monument
Pusan perimeter, "Chosin Few"
Heroes dead at Ko-do-ri
Marked "Paid in Full" for you and me
Final sacrifice for democracy
Midway in yours and my century
For a year or two or maybe three
These boys, now men, in dungarees
And iron hats and frozen feet
Will never forget the Mothers Sons
Their comrades; the fallen ones
"Who went to a land they had never seen
To save a people they had never met"

R.R. Larsen
Major, USMC, Ret.

Vet takes title

A cabinetmaker from Minneapolis, Minn., turned his negative experience in the Korean War into a positive.

Don Taylor, 70, took first place and Best of Show honors in the 2001 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival competition.

Competing in the special commemorative category, Taylor's "Blood, Death, Electroshock and Confinement" consists of multicolored wood that reflects the soldier's four months on the front lines in Korea followed by months of medical treatment in military hospitals.

The three black panels and the single red panel represent the four months he spent on the front lines in Korea, as well as a lot of death and blood, said Taylor. The four panels and white bars represent nine months in military hospitals with the two colored panels representing two months of being subjected to electroshock therapy resulting in severe brain damage.
(Courtesy information)



Courtesy photo

History Lesson

Eighth grade students from Grant Middle School in Fairview Heights, Ill., learned about the Korean War from veteran Wilbur Krausz. Krausz, a soldier who served in the 7th Infantry Division, spoke to four classes that day and used a personal video and products from the Korean War Commemoration Committee to educate the class. The flag and posters displayed in the classroom came from the Lake View Memorial Gardens and Funeral Home in Fairview. Having traveled to Korea in 1997, Krausz was able to talk to students about South Korea's past and present. Veterans are encouraged to teach younger generations about their experiences so that America will continue to remember those who fought for freedom.

Native Americans in the Korean War

Native Americans have served with distinction in United States military actions for over 200 years. During World War II, more than 44,000 American Indians, out of a total Native American population of less than 350,000, saw military service. A few years later, many of these seasoned troops and officers transferred their fighting skills to the Korean peninsula where new recruits join them in the fight against communist aggression.

Cherokee Strikes" Boost Morale

Vice Admiral Joseph J. "Jocko" Clark, the last commander of the Navy's 7th Fleet during the Korean War and a Cherokee descendent, became famous for his self-proclaimed "Cherokee Strikes." In late 1952, Clark, a



veteran of two world wars, concentrated his fleet's efforts on the destruction of enemy weapons and supplies behind enemy lines. For these raids, Clark deployed his Navy and Marine Corps carrier-based aircraft and land-based Air Force and foreign planes. While not particularly devastating to enemy supply lines, the Cherokee Strikes served

as a much-needed morale boost for American frontline troops.

Army Soldiers Serve Heroically

Maj. General Hal L. Muldrow Jr., a Choctaw, commanded the Division Artillery, 45th Infantry Division from Dec. 10, 1951 to May 22, 1952. Colonel, and later Brig. General, Otwa Autry of the Creek Nation, commanded the 189th Field Artillery Battalion, 45th Infantry Division, until May 1952. The 189th delivered some of the heaviest artillery fire during the battles for Hills 191(T-Bone Ridge) and 275 (Old Baldy) during the summer of 1952.

SFC William Stewart, a Crow, also saw action with the 45th Infantry Division. He was wounded during the battle for Christmas Hill. PFC Clarence J. Marcellais, a Chippewa, landed at Pusan in July 1950 with the Army's 24th Infantry Division. Marcellais was wounded by a mortar shell when the North Koreans tried to overrun an artillery battery near the Naktong River. Less than a year later, while on patrol near Chipyeong-ni, he was hit in the left leg by sniper fire, and the leg had to be amputated at the knee.

PFC Jerome Adams, a Devil's Lake Sioux, served with the Army's 2nd Infantry Division. He was evacuated after receiving gunshot wounds in the back, chest and

arms and also shrapnel wounds in his legs.

Ben "Nighthorse" Campbell

One young recruit who joined the military during the Korean conflict was Ben Nighthorse Campbell, a Cheyenne, who, in 1987, became the first American Indian to serve in

Congress since 1929. The 18-year-old Campbell joined the Air Force in 1951. He was transferred to an Air Force police unit and shipped to Korea.

Campbell never saw combat firsthand, but he vividly

remembers the horrors he saw there, especially the suffering of Korean children. But Campbell also recalls the benefits of service in the military, writing, "There was a camaraderie [in the Air Force] that transcends ethnicity when you serve your country overseas in wartime."

Campbell was elected to the Colorado State Legislature in November 1982 and from there went to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served from 1987 to 1992. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1992.



Native American Medal of Honor Recipients from the Korean War

Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr.

PFC Charles Georg

Capt. Raymond Harvey

(Courtesy Defense Link)

